



WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Division of Workforce Solutions
Bureau of Workforce Programs

**TO: Economic Support Supervisors
Economic Support Lead Workers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators
W-2 Agencies**

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Non W-2 ☐ W-2 ☐ CC ☒

PRIORITY: Medium

**SUBJECT: SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS) RISK REDUCTION
LEGISLATION**

CROSS REFERENCE: 20001-2003 Wisconsin Biennial Budget

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This memo provides information regarding the new Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Risk Reduction provision that passed as a part of the 2001-2003 Wisconsin Biennial Budget bill on August 30, 2001.

BACKGROUND

The new provision requires that every certified child care provider, employees of the provider, substitutes and volunteers who provide care for children under one year of age must receive training on most current medically accepted methods of preventing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. If the provider uses substitutes and/or volunteers, the provider must make sure that they are educated on SIDS prevention methods before they are allowed to care for children under 12 months.

TRAINING TIME-LINE

The new bill indicates that the provider must complete SIDS training before the certificate is issued. If the provider has not completed the training before the certification date, the certification may be restricted to exclude children under 12 months until the provider has met this requirement. The providers who are currently certified must complete the training by 10/01/02.

TRAINING

The word training means “to make proficient with specialized instruction and practice”. It is up to the certifying agency’s discretion to decide what kind of SIDS training meets this requirement. The agencies may accept SIDS training offered through the Child Care Resource and Referral, Technical Colleges, etc. The SIDS training could be included in the certification 15-hour training. The certifying agency may develop their own training on the SIDS prevention methods. The Safe Child Care monies may be used for this purpose. Also, the certifier may train the provider at a home visit by using various SIDS prevention materials available from the Wisconsin Child Care Information Center. The training must be documented in the provider’s file.

MOST CURRENT MEDICALLY ACCEPTED METHODS OF PREVENTING SIDS

The new bill indicates that the providers must receive training on most current medically accepted methods of preventing SIDS. The provider training should, at a minimum, include the following methods recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics:

1. Place infants on their backs when napping.

However, some babies might have health conditions that might require them to sleep on their tummy or side (birth defects, often spits up after eating, or has breathing, lung or heart problems).

2. Babies should sleep on firm mattress or other firm surface.

The provider should not use fluffy blankets or comforters under the baby. The baby should never sleep on a waterbed, sheepskin, a pillow or other soft materials. Also, soft toys should not be kept in the crib.

3. Smoking.

If the mother smoked during pregnancy and if the baby is exposed to second-hand smoke, the risk for SIDS is much greater than for babies of non-smoking parents. The certification rules prohibit smoking in any area in which the children are present. The provider should make sure that this rule is carefully followed at all times.

RESOURCES

The “Back to Sleep” brochure and other SIDS prevention information is available through the Wisconsin Child Care Information Center.

- Phone them at 1-800-362-7353
- Or visit their web site at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/ccic/>.

Here are other agencies that provide information on SIDS:

National SIDS Resource Center <http://www.sidscenter.org/>

American Academy of Pediatrics
(do a search on "SIDS") <http://www.aap.org/default.htm>

Back to Sleep Campaign <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/sids/sids.cfm>

National SIDS and Infant Death
Program Support Center <http://www.sids-id-psc.org/>

Consumer Products Safety Commission <http://www.cpsc.gov/>

CONTACTS

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